

6/22/72

Detective Charles Penney
Intelligence Unit
Baltimore County Police Bureau
400 Kennilworth Drive
Towson, Md.

Dear Charles,

If you will indulge the coining of a phrase, fiction is stranger than truth.

Attached are pages 110-1 of the reprint of The Triumph of Evil to be issued next month by Pocket Books. The hardback was published last year by World. I have marked an interesting passage on page 111. It deals with visits to an injured Southern governor, considered a presidential candidate, but another candidate. There is more to this incident than appears on these two pages of the fiction, but is it not comparable with the path to Holy Cross Hospital every candidate has now followed? Or, if one had stopped to think of it, predictable?

I have no reason to assume that it will interest Bremer's lawyer. But maybe you can arrange to have it given to him on one of his visits?

I am confident that whether or not it interests him it will not interest anyone else because everyone else is persuaded that there can be no possibility of conspiracy in any assassination or attempted assassination.

In the book, this is a bungled job in a series of assassinations, the third. It is bungled because the real assassin entrusted part of it to another.

If I thought anyone would be interested, I'd adjust the machine to make a better copy. If anyone is, I will, or I will lend the book.

The author is Paul Havanaugh.

If you like ironies, The New York Times, which has opposed all serious works on real assassinations to the point where it can be accused of literary assassination, went for this novel so strongly that it is quoted at length on the first page and on the cover ("...have the reader nodding in agreement. It can happen here.").

Larry, you see I am reading the book you sent. Sincerely,

It has bits and pieces of reality woven in, hence

the opening disclaimer. But it is interesting that

author the/froshadowed what the substitute for Wallace Harold Weisberg suffered when he wasn't killed and what other

pols did...How about checking your morgue to see if there is any entry for an anti-Castro organization called "Americas" (NYT) or "Ameretas" (Wash Post? Bob asked me this a.m. I have no file on the organization but several stories indicating an effort to overcome the Cuban habit of six Cubans forming 12 organizations. If it is real, and I assume it is, it has to be post JFK.